

## EDITORIAL

### Save the Eskimo's Reindeer!

HERE is something for Presbyterian women to do—and do promptly. Write short, but emphatic (and we do not need to add, polite) letters to your Senator and also to Secretary Wilbur of the Department of the Interior at Washington, asking for justice for the Natives of Alaska in the protection of their reindeer herds.

This is a matter which was discussed at the Home Missions Congress in Washington in 1930, and also at the Home Missions Council meeting in Toronto, in January of this year. But individual action is needed now. Back of all is a mission history of interest to Presbyterians. When Dr. Sheldon Jackson, famous pioneer Presbyterian missionary, went to Alaska, he found the Eskimos suffering periodically from such shortage of food that they were in danger of starvation. Commercial white interests had sent whaling ships to their waters in such numbers that the Eskimo's apparently unlimited food supply from the sea was practically depleted. Dr. Jackson, then commissioner of education for the Territory, became convinced that reindeer would solve problems not only of food, but clothing and financial support as well.

At first Dr. Jackson could not find a listening ear when he appealed to Congress for an appropriation of money to buy reindeer. Undaunted, he set about arousing public interest. Five daily newspapers allowed him to make appeal through their columns; public interest was secured, the Indian Rights Association contributed about a thousand dollars, church people gave smaller sums, and the first herds were bought and taken to Alaska. Congress, then, sluggishly aroused, made a small appropriation and purchased another herd. Laws put the ownership of the reindeer solely in the hands of the Natives, under the supervision and control of the missions, and the government and the missionaries thought the Eskimos were safe.

The reindeer thrived in their new land, and today it is estimated that they number over a million. But today, despite laws and supposed safeguards, the Eskimo is not the sole owner of his reindeer—instead, he bids fair, if immediate steps are not set afoot to protect him, to lose what he has. The rapid increase of the herds, with the profit possible from the sale of meat, attracted the cupidity of white men, and a corporation was formed which, "through devious devices," as says the Indian Rights Association, was able to buy up several herds. These herds have been mingled (by this corporation) with the Eskimo herds in the grazing grounds, and when the young fawn are born each spring, the Natives have found it increasingly difficult to claim their own young reindeer. The result is that their herds have not increased, whereas the corporation's herds are steadily larger.

Protests have been sent to Washington, and several hearings were held in 1931. "Unfortunately," says the Indian Rights Association in the February number of its monthly publication, *Indian Truth*, "there was a noticeable lack of witnesses at these hearings who were qualified by first hand knowledge to speak in the interest of the natives, although the corporation was ably represented." A committee was appointed, the Kendrick Committee, which made several good recommendations, among them a request for an immediate general round-up of the herds and the separation of this corporation's holdings from the Eskimo herds. This has not been done. A Reindeer Council of five members, of whom two are Eskimos with a half vote each, was appointed as an administrative body. This council met once, at Nome, Alaska, in June, 1931, but of the two Natives appointed, only one could get there, because of late notice, long distance of travel, etc., and when he did arrive, he found the three white members had already been in session three or four days, and there was little left that he could do.



Says *Indian Truth Bulletin* bluntly: "Lomen interests dominated the first and only meeting of the Reindeer Council . . . Lomen herds have increased rapidly, while those of the Eskimo remain at a standstill or shrink through a system of percentages of penalties imposed at the instances of the Lomens in the management of the herds . . . Lomen interests have thus far been able to prevent any round-up and honest count of the deer. . . . On the basis of selling corporation stock, the reindeer are valued by the Lomen statement at an average of \$17.50 a head. In buying deer from the Eskimo, the Lomen interests consider \$3 per head a fair price . . . Unless the Interior Department can bring about a more effective administration of this industry, the Eskimo in the Seward Peninsula is likely soon to be eliminated as a factor, and the deer will be in possession of the whites. For ten years the natives have been pleading for relief. . ."

A missionary—a Presbyterian missionary—started the great work of saving the Alaskans from a starvation largely forced on them by white men. Today Presbyterians can do a great service to these same people by vigorous insistence that the native Alaskans be saved from other greedy white men. So don't fail, Mrs., or Miss—or Mr.—Reader of our great *WOMEN AND MISSIONS* family, to write your letters of protest to your representative in Congress, and to Secretary Wilbur, of the Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C. And do it soon—the time is short, and every day counts.

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### New Foreign Missions Secretary

THE Board of Foreign Missions has elected to its secretaryship the Rev. Dr. John A. Mackay, well known leader in evangelical missions in Latin America. Dr. Mackay was invited to become a secretary of the Board two or three years ago, but at that time felt it impossible to come. Now he has accepted, and will join the Board on June 1, entering the Foreign Department. Four months of his first year will be spent in Latin America, visiting the missions and

representing the Board at the World's Sunday School Convention in Rio de Janeiro. Dr. Mackay attended the decennial conference of the Board with its foreign missionaries at Lakeville last June, where his messages on the spiritual life were received with great interest. He is a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary.

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### He Gave Himself

JULIUS ROSENWALD, Jewish multimillionaire and philanthropist, who died in Chicago in January, left many dollars behind him; but he was left a far richer and more imperishable store of grateful memories.

As chief owner of the well known Sears Roebuck Company, Mr. Rosenwald amassed his wealth. He gave largely to Hebrew needs, but his gifts went unstinted to all races and colors, and never were they given without his heart. He believed with Lowell that "the gift without the giver is bare," and where he handed his money, he also gave his time and attention. His known benevolences were over \$25,000,000, and doubtless were much in excess of that. He believed always in giving for the current need, feeling that future needs should be cared for by future generations. He was intensely interested in the cause of Negro education, and built over five thousand schools for Negro boys and girls in the southern states. His offer to give \$25,000 for a Negro Y.M.C.A. to any city that would raise \$125,000 for the same purpose resulted in the first Negro Y.M.C.A. in the country in his home city of Chicago, followed by similar associations in other cities. His benevolence was not restricted to this country, but reached out to other lands.

Mr. Rosenwald lived a life of marked simplicity, disliking ostentation, although he was often referred to as "the first citizen of Chicago." His family followed his expressed wishes and his funeral was attended only by the immediate members of his household. A single wreath was the sole floral tribute. But thousands, including the President of the United States, sent messages of sympathy and regret to his widow.



## Does Your Hospital Aid Them?

AN AUTOMOBILE accident that has left a burning flush of shame on the faces of many Christian white women occurred a few weeks ago when Miss Juliette Derricotte, a member of the National Board of the Y.W.C.A., dean of women at Fisk University, and internationally known and honored in the field of race relations, was killed, together with one of three young Fisk students driving with her in her car. The group were returning home through the country from a meeting. Their car and another collided. Miss Derricotte and Miss Nina Johnson were injured badly.

They were picked up and rushed to a near by town, where the local doctors gave immediate and kindly emergency treatment. There was a well equipped hospital in this town, but—these women were Negro! They were taken from the doctors' offices to a small cottage where colored sick were occasionally sent. There, one was put in bed, the other on a couch, in charge of a "practical"—not a "trained"—nurse. Six hours later they were taken in an ambulance thirty-two miles to a Negro hospital. The *Federal Council Bulletin* comments: "It never occurred to the kindly doctors or townspeople to ask for the admission of these dying women to their hospital, where scientific facilities and expert care might have saved at least one life. Why? Because that hospital does not receive colored people!"

A recent investigation by the Rosenwald Fund states that in the whole United States there are only 122 hospitals operated for Negroes, and these are in only 28 of the 48 states. And as a sidelight it might be added that Miss Derricotte, cultured and refined, almost invariably traveled in her own car because of difficulties she experienced on trains and other means of transportation. Missionary groups looking for a new line of study might investigate the answers to a few questions asked recently in *The World Tomorrow*, such as, What do Negroes do when they are ill? What happens when Negroes go to hotels? When they go to restaurants? Or to work? Some interesting facts might be brought before the society.

## Let's Do It!

AS NEARLY all members of the missionary societies know, the amount of money which each Board is yearly allowed to raise—the minimum amount necessary for its work—is set by General Council, the executive committee of General Assembly. The "setting" and "apportionments" of all the four Boards are worked out after long weeks of careful study and consideration of the church's giving in the previous year, the additions to membership, the knowledge possessed by the members of General Council of the constituency of the church at large, and discussion of the needs and opportunities submitted by the Boards themselves. When the amounts are allotted, then the Boards allocate to the women's missionary organization a certain share for raising. This the women, through their women representatives on each Board (sixteen from the Board of National Missions and fifteen from the Board of Foreign Missions), accept as their total apportionment. This amount, after further serious and detailed study at Board headquarters and in conference with the women secretaries of all the districts, is apportioned to the young people, to synodicals and presbyteries, and to local groups. The richer and stronger societies are naturally asked to carry the heavy end of the burden; but each group is asked to bear its own burden in a spirit of loyalty to the Master and Leader of all. If it doesn't—?

This year the apportionment accepted by the women's organizations is \$1,271,500 for each mission Board. This is less by \$19,300 than for 1931-32, but is more than the women have ever given for each Board—for year after year some society has either refused to accept its apportionment, or has been unable to give the silver and gold asked of it, and the other societies, bearing their own share to their limit, have been able to reach out only a helping hand—not a covering hand. What a year 1932-33 would prove to be if each society would accept its suggested apportionment, *and meet it!* There would be joy in the mission board offices, joy on the mission fields around the world—and surely joy in heaven, too. As the news reel reporter so often says, "Let's Go!"

# INDIAN TRUTH

PUBLISHED BY THE INDIAN RIGHTS ASSOCIATION, INC., 995 DREXEL BUILDING, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Founded December 15, 1882, by Herbert Welsh, Henry S. Pancoast, and others,  
in the residence of Hon. John Welsh, Philadelphia. *Forty-eight years' active  
non-partisan work for Indian civilization and citizenship*

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JANUARY, 1932

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## Reindeer Industry

The Home Missions Council, at its annual meeting held in Toronto January 5, 1932, adopted a resolution calling on the Secretary of the Interior, "in the interest of justice to a less privileged and helpless race," to use all the power and influence of his office to secure the absolute separation of the reindeer herds as between the Natives (Indians) of Alaska and the whites, and the establishment of definite ranges for the Eskimo, or Natives.

It will be recalled that the late Dr. Sheldon Jackson, when head of the Bureau of Education, introduced a small herd of reindeer to give the Alaska Natives a dependable food supply; that later the Government imported 1,280 reindeer from Siberia. These original herds flourished and multiplied far beyond expectations, and today number upward of one million head. The rapid multiplication of these animals has already created problems of administration and justice. The Government introduced the reindeer as a food commodity for the Eskimo, with the intention that ownership should vest solely in the Natives and

in certain missions to hold and administer in behalf of the Natives. Strong white commercial interests have obtained large holdings and up to the present time all the deer, regardless of ownership, have been run in common herds. The Natives have felt that the intermingling of the herds has worked to their disadvantage and materially to the advantage of the whites. The injustice of this plan to the Natives is attested by missionaries and others on the ground, who are in close contact with the situation.

The Interior Department is confronted with the task of attempting to conserve the rights of the Eskimo, and also to make it possible to add to the Nation's meat supply. With a view to some proper adjustment of this situation, Secretary Wilbur appointed a Committee to investigate conditions in Alaska and to recommend a policy to be followed in the best interests of the Natives and other people in the Territory. This Committee consisted of Senator J. B. Kendrick, Representative Scott Leavitt, and Charles P. Sissons, of the Department of Justice.

Nine hearings were held by the



Committee in Washington during the months of February and March, 1931. Unfortunately, there was a noticeable lack of witnesses at those hearings who were qualified by first-hand knowledge to speak in the interest of the Natives, although the corporation against whose methods much complaint had been made was ably represented and had every opportunity to present its side of the question. In spite of that deficiency, however, the Kendrick Committee made wise and comprehensive recommendations which if carried out should go a long way to put the reindeer industry on a more satisfactory basis and eliminate much of the friction that has existed in the past. These recommendations are dated March 23, 1931, and in submitting them to the Secretary of the Interior the Committee expressed the belief "that the substance of these recommendations can be *forthwith* made effective."

On March 30, 1931, Secretary Wilbur transmitted the Kendrick Committee report to Governor Parks, Chairman of the Reindeer Council, stating, "It carries precise recommendations which I wish you would make effective at an early date."

It seems to us that the major recommendations of the Kendrick report are the one (No. 2) providing for a general round-up "with the least possible delay," and No. 5, which urges "that as soon as practicable and under equitable auspices, the Lomen reindeer be transferred from the Teller District and also from that portion of the Buckland

District west of the Buckland River."

The Reindeer Council met at Nome, Alaska, June 18 to June 24, 1931, presumably in accordance with the letter of Secretary Wilbur of March 30, 1931, to Governor Parks.

Although the Kendrick Committee believed that its recommendations could be made effective "*forthwith*," and Secretary Wilbur wished them made effective "at an early date," it is to be regretted—according to reliable information that has come to us—that nothing has yet been done to give the Natives that protection from the Government to which they are entitled.

The Reindeer Council was created presumably to further the interests of the Eskimo, and prompt action on its part will do much to convince the Eskimo and those interested in their welfare of its integrity. If right action is not taken without delay, the suspicion will grow that the corporation concerned is averse to having an accurate count made of the herds to establish definite ownership, and is dominating the Council.

Secretary Wilbur has secured a good set-up for dealing with the reindeer industry, through the Kendrick recommendations, and if the present personnel of the Reindeer Council is not capable of carrying out those recommendations, it is not impossible for him to make necessary changes to get the desired results. We realize that additions to the personnel are necessary and must wait favorable action by Congress before a well-rounded plan can

be put into operation, but it is believed that the present force is in a position to carry out Recommendations No. 2 and No. 5 if directed to do so "*forthwith*."

### State Co-operation

At the forty-ninth annual meeting of the Indian Rights Association, held in Philadelphia January 14, Dr. Erl A. Bates, of the Anthropology Department of Cornell University, paid a tribute to the excellent work done by Commissioners Charles J. Rhoads and J. Henry Scattergood, in reorganizing the Indian Service. He pointed out the need that the head of the Indian Service be a permanent director, under civil service regulations, rather than a political appointment subject to change both in person and policy with each administration.

Dr. Bates emphasized the need for greater co-operation between State and Federal governments in looking after the health, education and welfare needs of the Indians. He said: "Since these white communities have set up schools, health and social welfare agencies, it is sound national policy to see the end of federal activities. I have confidence in states like Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Utah, Washington, Oregon and California, and even other states, accepting federal funds under proper safeguards to carry on federal Indian activities."

Dr. Bates continued: "The states have the personnel, equipment and a knowledge of local conditions and every federal dollar would be doubled in value if we removed the long

range administration from Washington."

Dr. Bates spent the academic year of 1930-31 as a special representative in the Indian Service working for better State and Federal co-operation, and in this connection visited Indians in forty states. For twenty years he has been actively engaged in working for the welfare of the Indians of New York State.

### Nursing Courses

The Colonial Dames, through its Patriotic Service Committee, of which Mrs. Henry H. Pease is Chairman, is taking a very practical and helpful interest in Indian affairs. It has arranged to provide scholarships in nursing for competent, ambitious young Indian women who wish to take such a course. Two are now enrolled at the Pennsylvania Hospital, in Philadelphia—Miss Virginia Miller (a Chippewa) and Miss Adeline Clark (an Oklahoma Cherokee). The Hospital authorities report that these young women are making excellent progress. Additions will be made at regular intervals until twelve Indian girls are enrolled as student-nurses.

On the afternoon of January 14, Miss Miller and Miss Clark were formally introduced to the members of the Colonial Dames at a reception given in their honor.

### Next May

The National Conference of Social Work will meet in Philadelphia May 15-21. The Committee on the American Indian expects to hold two sessions—probably May 19 and 20—and a luncheon on the latter date.



## Malcolm McDowell

Mr. McDowell has resigned as Secretary of the Board of Indian Commissioners, to accept a position with the Chicago Daily News. Many friends of the Indian will regret to see Mr. McDowell pass out of the Indian picture, but they will wish him well in his new duties.

## Hard Times

A reliable correspondent on the Gila River Pima reservation sends us this item as indicating more misfortune for the Pima Indians:

"The depression hit us with considerable force and at a time when we could little afford it. Three years ago cotton was selling locally at 16 and 17 cents a pound; this fall it brought four cents! Three years ago wheat sold from the thresher for \$2.25 per cwt.; the past summer the Pimas sold it for eighty-five cents. Three years ago alfalfa sold, baled in the field, from \$16 to \$18 per ton; this year it brought \$6 a ton baled and delivered. All of which is discouraging to a Pima who was producing his first crop in many years."

Word comes to us that the storms that recently swept the Navajo country created a serious condition for those Indians. In spite of the splendid work done by the Agency superintendents in handling the situation, there probably will be a large loss of stock. With a poor market for sheep last fall, many old ewes could not be sold and have to be held over; and because of limited grazing, it is believed that many of them will not survive the winter.

## A Moratorium Needed

When will some people quit digging up old "has beens"? Every one who seems to be called upon to write about the Indian Service always digs up the old military corpse under which the Indian Service was organized more than seventy years ago. There are no such organizations in the Indian Service today. The rank and file of Indian Service employees have always been, even under the old military régime, sympathetic and helpful to both young and old Indians. There have been hundreds of these employees who labored day in and day out on wages that were spurned by the well-trained school-teachers. These early employees did the pioneer work of organizing an educational system; they built school plants on the small appropriations that could be cajoled from Congress, they converted old forts and army barracks into schools, and at the same time they created a desire and love of learning in the young Indian that is beautiful to behold. They prepared thousands of young Indians in these poorly equipped and inadequately manned schools for active and wholesome citizenship. If one of these chronic fault-finders would take the trouble to visit an alumni meeting of Haskell Institute or any other Indian school one time, he would never use such terms as "military swagger," "arbitrary authority," and "outside authority," which are only the vestiges of an era long past.—*The Indian Leader.*

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FEBRUARY, 1932

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## Eskimo Reindeer Seriously Threatened

Our January issue contained a preliminary summary of the Alaska reindeer situation. About the same time a letter was sent by the I. R. A. to Secretary Wilbur calling his attention to the failure of the Reindeer Council at Nome to carry out certain instructions he had sent to it, and the need for some positive action. The secretary replied that he was having inquiries made as to the specific points raised concerning the removal of the Lomen Corporation deer from Teller and Buckland, and a general round-up of all reindeer, and added, "I expect soon to be able to assure you of progress along these lines."

Meanwhile, we continue to receive considerable additional information from various reliable sources, a careful study of which strongly suggests certain outstanding points, viz.:

1. That the reindeer situation in the Seward peninsula is completely dominated by the Lomen interests; that the father of the

Lomen brothers had been judge of the Federal Court at Nome; that because of his position Judge Lomen has been regarded as the supreme authority of the United States Government in the Seward Peninsula region, and it was believed that all of his official power was behind the activities of his sons. This has served as a warning that the Lomen interests were not to be interfered with. Judge Lomen was reappointed last year, but the Senate Judiciary Committee refused to report favorably on his nomination. Strong efforts have been made during the present winter to secure Judge Lomen's re-nomination. Because of the pernicious influence that family combination has exerted on the reindeer industry of the Alaska natives, the I. R. A. filed with the President and the Judiciary Committee of the Senate a protest against his re-nomination. The protest was acknowledged by the President, stating that it would be brought to the attention of the Attorney-General.

2. The Lomen interests domi-



nated the hearings conducted in Washington, February and March, 1931, by Secretary Wilbur's Reindeer Committee, of which Senator Kendrick was chairman. In spite of that fact, however, that Committee made a series of recommendations which, if carried out, would do much to put the industry on a proper basis—and those recommendations involved separation of the reindeer from the mixed herds, and freeing the native deer from Lomen control.

3. Lomen interests dominated the first and only meeting of the Reindeer Council, set up in accordance with the Kendrick Committee recommendation, which was held in Nome, Alaska, last June. The personnel of this Council consists of Governor Parks (ex officio), Carl Lomen, the Government Reindeer Superintendent, the Interior Department Chief of the Alaska Division, and two Eskimos. Gov. Parks and Carl Lomen are known to be intimate friends, and it is evident that Lomen was able to control the actions of the Council to such an extent that the recommendations which the Kendrick Committee said would be made effective forthwith were practically ignored. With such a set-up, the Eskimos have little chance of obtaining justice at the hands of the Council; the Lomen interests are left in a position where they can, if they so choose, exploit the Eskimo and secure an undue proportion of the calves and "mavericks."

4. Lomen herds have increased

rapidly, while those of the Eskimo remain at a standstill or shrink through a system of percentage and penalties imposed at the instance of the Lomens in the management of the herds.

5. Lomen interests were able to have Nunivak Island removed from the Interior Department jurisdiction and transferred to the Department of Agriculture, by Executive Order, as a "bird refuge" and for the protection of fur-bearing animals. Then a small herd of reindeer was put on the island, to the detriment of the Eskimos, who had failed to get deer for their own use in response to various requests. Here there has been built up a system of peonage through a monopolistic control of the island.

6. Lomen interests have thus far been able to control the ranges and to prevent any round-up and an honest count of the deer. The range question is now under consideration by the Land Office, and a radical change ought to be made in allocating the areas involved.

7. Lomen interests have been against many of the employes of the Interior Department in Alaska who have sought to protect the Eskimos from exploitation; and a number of high-grade men either left the Service or were dismissed as a result of adverse influence.

8. Accurate data show that about 15 years ago the Eskimos owned ninety per cent of the reindeer in the Seward peninsula and the whites ten per cent. Now those figures are reversed.

The area involved in this industry is 60,000,000 acres of land, which is twice the size of the State of California. There are approximately one million reindeer, and the personnel charged with the supervision of this vast interest consists of only four men. Yet the welfare of 13,000 natives is at stake.

Unless the Interior Department can bring about a more effective administration of this industry, the Eskimo in the Seward Peninsula is likely soon to be eliminated as a factor in it, and the deer will be in possession of the whites. For ten years the natives have been pleading for relief from Lomen domination. This would seem to be a good time to de-Lomenize the reindeer industry.

In an application of the Lomen Reindeer Company to the State Department of Licenses, at Olympia, Wash., the principal assets of the Company are given as 250,000 reindeer, valued at \$4,325,000. The statement also names six areas where the Company claims range rights have been acquired. In the absence of a complete round-up, it would be difficult for any one to state the actual number of deer owned. In well-informed circles, however, it is believed the Lomen claim is excessive. Concerning the grazing areas claimed, the Lomens have been ordered to vacate two of them—Teller and Buckland—and the remaining four are in dispute with the Eskimo rights.

It is interesting to note that on the basis of selling corporation

stock the reindeer are valued by the Lomen statement at an average of \$17.25 per head. In buying deer from the Eskimo, the Lomen interests consider \$3 per head a fair price. (See Hearings, Kendrick Reindeer Committee.)

#### Dangerous Success

A keen-minded internationally known authority on Indian affairs wrote to us on this subject:

"As we all know, the reindeer were originally placed in Alaska to help solve the problem of the natives, and I believe it is beyond dispute that it was the most successful economic move ever started for the American natives. So successful indeed that there is now seemingly grave danger that its success will react to the detriment of the natives. It is the same old story that if the native has anything worth while, take it away from him. The time-worn excuse is that the white man can make more from the situation than the native."

#### George Washington and Indians

One of the outstanding acts of George Washington, showing his concern for Indian rights, was a proclamation he issued December 12, 1792, which read:

"WHEREAS, I have received authentic information that certain lawless and wicked persons, of the western frontier, in the state of Georgia, did lately invade, burn and destroy a town belonging to the Cherokee nation, although in amity with the United States; and put to



death several Indians of that nation; and whereas such outrageous conduct not only violates the rights of humanity, but also endangers the public peace; and it highly becomes the honor and good faith of the United States to pursue all legal means for the punishment of those atrocious offenders; I have therefore thought fit to issue this my proclamation, hereby exhorting all the citizens of the United States, and requiring all the officers thereof, according to their respective stations, to use their utmost endeavors to apprehend and bring those offenders to justice. And I do moreover offer a reward of five hundred dollars for each and every one of the above named persons who shall be so apprehended and brought to justice, and shall be proved to have assumed or exercised any command or authority among the perpetrators of the crimes aforesaid, at the time of committing the same."

## **The Only Good Indian**

It was commonly understood that General Sheridan was the author of "The only good Indian is a dead Indian." It was claimed later that General Sheridan denied this. In browsing about a library, the editor was shown a document quite in keeping with the alleged declaration. In the files of the War Department is a report of Captain Mills, in 1876, to General Crook, who passed it on to Headquarters, which dealt with some minor Indian campaign. The endorsement on it by General Sheridan was, "Too much attention to the destruction of Indian villages *and not enough to the destruction of the Indians.*"

## **Earl Y. Henderson**

At its annual meeting, January 14, 1932, the Board of Indian Commissioners elected Earl Y. Henderson as secretary. For sixteen years Mr. Henderson was an assistant to Malcolm McDowell, his predecessor. During that period he made numerous trips to the field and his reports of his investigations showed a keen understanding of the problems involved. Mr. Henderson's election is a deserved promotion.

## **Rev. Sherman Coolidge**

On January 24, Rev. Sherman Coolidge, a widely known full-blood Arapaho clergyman of the Episcopal Church, died suddenly. Serving for a number of years as a missionary to his own people, he became Canon of the Cathedral at Denver, Colo., and later served as rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Colorado Springs. Mr. Coolidge was a welcome visitor in any community, Indian or white.

## **Alaska Indians**

Representative Wickersham has introduced a bill in Congress (H. R. 5605) authorizing the Tlingit and Haida Indians of Alaska to bring suit in the United States Court of Claims, "and conferring jurisdiction upon said court to hear, examine, adjudicate, and enter judgment upon any and all claims which said Indians may have, or claim to have, against the United States."



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APRIL, 1932

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## An Endorsement

At a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Indian Rights Association, April 6, 1932, the following statement was unanimously adopted:

"We have been criticized by certain other friends of the Indian for supporting the administration of Messrs. Rhoads and Scattergood. We gladly admit the charge. We think the best interests of the Indians demand that the present administration be supported in the good work it has done. We have not always agreed with the Commissioners in particular matters, and have not hesitated to confer with them personally when differences of opinion arose. Our conferences have usually resulted in the adoption of measures that were for the best interests of the Indian.

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A new addition to the Indian Office staff is Arthur C. Monahan, recently appointed as Assistant to the Commissioner on Property Relations. He was formerly with the Bureau of Education as specialist in Rural and Agricultural Education.



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## Eskimo Reindeer Seriously Threatened

Our January issue contained a preliminary summary of the Alaska reindeer situation. About the same time a letter was sent by the I. R. A. to Secretary Wilbur calling his attention to the failure of the Reindeer Council at Nome to carry out certain instructions he had sent to it, and the need for some positive action. The secretary replied that he was having inquiries made as to the specific points raised concerning the removal of the Lomen Corporation deer from Teller and Buckland, and a general round-up of all reindeer, and added, "I expect soon to be able to assure you of progress along these lines."

Meanwhile, we continue to receive considerable additional information from various reliable sources, a careful study of which strongly suggests certain outstanding points, viz.:

1. That the reindeer situation in the Seward peninsula is completely dominated by the Lomen interests; that the father of the

Lomen brothers had been judge of the Federal Court at Nome; that because of his position Judge Lomen has been regarded as the supreme authority of the United States Government in the Seward Peninsula region, and it was believed that all of his official power was behind the activities of his sons. This has served as a warning that the Lomen interests were not to be interfered with. Judge Lomen was reappointed last year, but the Senate Judiciary Committee refused to report favorably on his nomination. Strong efforts have been made during the present winter to secure Judge Lomen's re-nomination. Because of the pernicious influence that family combination has exerted on the reindeer industry of the Alaska natives, the I. R. A. filed with the President and the Judiciary Committee of the Senate a protest against his re-nomination. The protest was acknowledged by the President, stating that it would be brought to the attention of the Attorney-General.

2. The Lomen interests domi-



nated the hearings conducted in Washington, February and March, 1931, by Secretary Wilbur's Reindeer Committee, of which Senator Kendrick was chairman. In spite of that fact, however, that Committee made a series of recommendations which, if carried out, would do much to put the industry on a proper basis—and those recommendations involved separation of the reindeer from the mixed herds, and freeing the native deer from Lomen control.

3. Lomen interests dominated the first and only meeting of the Reindeer Council, set up in accordance with the Kendrick Committee recommendation, which was held in Nome, Alaska, last June. The personnel of this Council consists of Governor Parks (ex officio), Carl Lomen, the Government Reindeer Superintendent, the Interior Department Chief of the Alaska Division, and two Eskimos. Gov. Parks and Carl Lomen are known to be intimate friends, and it is evident that Lomen was able to control the actions of the Council to such an extent that the recommendations which the Kendrick Committee said would be made effective forthwith were practically ignored. With such a set-up, the Eskimos have little chance of obtaining justice at the hands of the Council; the Lomen interests are left in a position where they can, if they so choose, exploit the Eskimo and secure an undue proportion of the calves and "mavericks."

4. Lomen herds have increased

rapidly, while those of the Eskimo remain at a standstill or shrink through a system of percentage and penalties imposed at the instance of the Lomens in the management of the herds.

5. Lomen interests were able to have Nunivak Island removed from the Interior Department jurisdiction and transferred to the Department of Agriculture, by Executive Order, as a "bird refuge" and for the protection of fur-bearing animals. Then a small herd of reindeer was put on the island, to the detriment of the Eskimos, who had failed to get deer for their own use in response to various requests. Here there has been built up a system of peonage through a monopolistic control of the island.

6. Lomen interests have thus far been able to control the ranges and to prevent any round-up and an honest count of the deer. The range question is now under consideration by the Land Office, and a radical change ought to be made in allocating the areas involved.

7. Lomen interests have been against many of the employes of the Interior Department in Alaska who have sought to protect the Eskimos from exploitation; and a number of high-grade men either left the Service or were dismissed as a result of adverse influence.

8. Accurate data show that about 15 years ago the Eskimos owned ninety per cent of the reindeer in the Seward peninsula and the whites ten per cent. Now those figures are reversed.

The area involved in this industry is 60,000,000 acres of land, which is twice the size of the State of California. There are approximately one million reindeer, and the personnel charged with the supervision of this vast interest consists of only four men. Yet the welfare of 13,000 natives is at stake.

Unless the Interior Department can bring about a more effective administration of this industry, the Eskimo in the Seward Peninsula is likely soon to be eliminated as a factor in it, and the deer will be in possession of the whites. For ten years the natives have been pleading for relief from Lomen domination. This would seem to be a good time to de-Lomenize the reindeer industry.

In an application of the Lomen Reindeer Company to the State Department of Licenses, at Olympia, Wash., the principal assets of the Company are given as 250,000 reindeer, valued at \$4,325,000. The statement also names six areas where the Company claims range rights have been acquired. In the absence of a complete round-up, it would be difficult for any one to state the actual number of deer owned. In well-informed circles, however, it is believed the Lomen claim is excessive. Concerning the grazing areas claimed, the Lomens have been ordered to vacate two of them—Teller and Buckland—and the remaining four are in dispute with the Eskimo rights.

It is interesting to note that on the basis of selling corporation

stock the reindeer are valued by the Lomen statement at an average of \$17.25 per head. In buying deer from the Eskimo, the Lomen interests consider \$3 per head a fair price. (See Hearings, Kendrick Reindeer Committee.)

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### Dangerous Success

A keen-minded internationally known authority on Indian affairs wrote to us on this subject:

"As we all know, the reindeer were originally placed in Alaska to help solve the problem of the natives, and I believe it is beyond dispute that it was the most successful economic move ever started for the American natives. So successful indeed that there is now seemingly grave danger that its success will react to the detriment of the natives. It is the same old story that if the native has anything worth while, take it away from him. The time-worn excuse is that the white man can make more from the situation than the native."

~

### George Washington and Indians

One of the outstanding acts of George Washington, showing his concern for Indian rights, was a proclamation he issued December 12, 1792, which read:

"WHEREAS, I have received authentic information that certain lawless and wicked persons, of the western frontier, in the state of Georgia, did lately invade, burn and destroy a town belonging to the Cherokee nation, although in amity with the United States; and put to

death several Indians of that nation; and whereas such outrageous conduct not only violates the rights of humanity, but also endangers the public peace; and it highly becomes the honor and good faith of the United States to pursue all legal means for the punishment of those atrocious offenders; I have therefore thought fit to issue this my proclamation, hereby exhorting all the citizens of the United States, and requiring all the officers thereof, according to their respective stations, to use their utmost endeavors to apprehend and bring those offenders to justice. And I do moreover offer a reward of five hundred dollars for each and every one of the above named persons who shall be so apprehended and brought to justice, and shall be proved to have assumed or exercised any command or authority among the perpetrators of the crimes aforesaid, at the time of committing the same."

## **The Only Good Indian**

It was commonly understood that General Sheridan was the author of "The only good Indian is a dead Indian." It was claimed later that General Sheridan denied this. In browsing about a library, the editor was shown a document quite in keeping with the alleged declaration. In the files of the War Department is a report of Captain Mills, in 1876, to General Crook, who passed it on to Headquarters, which dealt with some minor Indian campaign. The endorsement on it by General Sheridan was, "Too much attention to the destruction of Indian villages *and not enough to the destruction of the Indians.*"

## **Earl Y. Henderson**

At its annual meeting, January 14, 1932, the Board of Indian Commissioners elected Earl Y. Henderson as secretary. For sixteen years Mr. Henderson was an assistant to Malcolm McDowell, his predecessor. During that period he made numerous trips to the field and his reports of his investigations showed a keen understanding of the problems involved. Mr. Henderson's election is a deserved promotion.

## **Rev. Sherman Coolidge**

On January 24, Rev. Sherman Coolidge, a widely known full-blood Arapaho clergyman of the Episcopal Church, died suddenly. Serving for a number of years as a missionary to his own people, he became Canon of the Cathedral at Denver, Colo., and later served as rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Colorado Springs. Mr. Coolidge was a welcome visitor in any community, Indian or white.

## **Alaska Indians**

Representative Wickersham has introduced a bill in Congress (H. R. 5605) authorizing the Tlingit and Haida Indians of Alaska to bring suit in the United States Court of Claims, "and conferring jurisdiction upon said court to hear, examine, adjudicate, and enter judgment upon any and all claims which said Indians may have, or claim to have, against the United States."



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This is a promising beginning of a needed effort to put the reindeer industry on a sound basis, and we hope that it will work out for the permanent benefit of the Eskimo. Its progress will be watched with keen interest.

#### **Educational Plans For Alaska**

Preliminary plans have been worked out by the Office of Indian Affairs with the Extension and Home Demonstration Agents stationed at the Alaska College, Fairbanks, Alaska, for cooperation between the Indian Service and the Extension workers already in the field for the white population. It is believed that a unified Extension Service for the Territory will be particularly helpful to the natives. While the two positions needed to start the Agricultural Extension and Home Demonstration work cannot

be set up this year because of lack of funds, it is hoped that they may be available soon. The plans are for a Supervisor of Agricultural Extension and Industry to assist natives in agriculture wherever that is feasible, and in other types of economic development in the school and in the community; and for a Supervisor of Home Demonstration who will be responsible for a home improvement program, including teaching of child care, home canning of fish, fruit, and vegetables, practical sewing, and other activities related to the home.

#### **Reimbursable Debts**

The House Committee on Indian Affairs has reported favorably a bill (H. R. 8898) authorizing the deferring of collection of construction costs against Indian lands within irrigation projects. The eight-line text reads:

"That the collection of all construction costs against any Indian lands within any Government irrigation project is hereby deferred, and no assessments shall be made on behalf of such charges against such lands until the Indian title thereto shall have been extinguished, at which time the pro rata share of the total construction cost properly assessable against such lands shall then be assessed and collected in annual installments over a period of not less than forty years."

While this is in the right direction, it affords temporary relief; the charges will continue to pile up against the land, and if the time comes when the Indian wants to

sell, it may be difficult to find a purchaser willing to pay much in excess of the accumulated debt. We are hoping that eventually a bill might go through Congress to cancel the greater part of these reimbursable debts in connection with irrigation construction costs.

#### **Cutting Appropriations**

At this writing the fate of the Interior Department Appropriation bill is not known. As passed by the House, the items were "cut to the quick," and if the Senate makes further reductions of ten or fifteen per cent, the work of the Indian Bureau will be seriously handicapped. No extension work can be increased, and it will be difficult, if not impossible, to maintain on an efficient basis activities of such vital interest to the Indians. Where the health, education and general welfare of a retarded people are involved, the yardstick of economy should be used with the greatest care. Failure to support these items adequately may be followed by disastrous results.

#### **Conference In Philadelphia**

The National Conference of Social Work will meet in Philadelphia May 16 to May 21. The Indian Section will hold two sessions:

1. Thursday, May 19, at 11 A. M., with Henry Roe Cloud, presiding officer. The general topic is, "The Work of the Indian Office." Hon. Charles J. Rhoads, Commissioner

of Indian Affairs, will speak on "The General Administration of Indian Affairs"; and Robert T. Lansdale, Personnel Officer of the Bureau, will speak on "The Social Aspects of Indian Work."

2. Friday, May 20, at 11 A. M., Jonathan M. Steere, presiding. The general topic is, "The Great Unfinished Task Remaining Before Us." Miss Mary Louise Mark, Professor of Sociology, Ohio State University, is to speak on "Needs in Human Relationships," and the topic assigned to John Collier, Secretary, American Indian Defense Association, is "Needs in Administration of Indian Property."

We hope to give, in our May issue, further particulars as to the meeting place assigned to the Indian Section, and mention the date of the luncheon for Indians and their friends. The Benjamin Franklin is headquarters hotel for the Conference.



## The Navajos

One of our callers this month was W. R. Johnston, for nearly forty years a missionary to the Navajos. Although nominally on the "retired list," Mr. Johnston has kept in close touch with conditions throughout the Navajo country by correspondence and spending a good deal of his time among "his people," as he calls them. He speaks their language fluently, and is unusually well informed about them. Mr. Johnston visited some sections of the Navajo country on his way east to check up on the damage caused

by the unprecedented snowstorms. He states that the Indian Service organization, as represented by six jurisdictions, functioned in a remarkably efficient manner in meeting the unusual conditions resulting from the heavy storms; that the Indian Office was on the alert, supporting to the fullest extent its field units with funds, and that every need involving the welfare of the Navajos and their live-stock was met immediately.

Mr. Johnston is especially interested in an effort to have something done for the returned students on the reservations, and spent most of last summer going over the reservations, meeting such students, and with a view to having them organize and be in a position to work for the betterment of their own people. He has just issued "The Returned Student Bulletin," to promote the idea. It is full of interesting material of a nature that is most helpful to an understanding of local conditions.



## Arthur C. Monahan

A new addition to the Indian Office staff is Arthur C. Monahan, recently appointed as Assistant to the Commissioner on Property Relations. He was formerly with the Bureau of Education as specialist in Rural and Agricultural Education.



Civilization made its own compact with a weaker party; it was not violated by the savage.—*General Sherman.*



## The Reindeer Again

OUR WOMEN AND MISSIONS family will be glad to read the pleasant words from the Secretary of the Department of the Interior on another page of this magazine, and the Government's "news release" regarding the sending of two investigators to Alaska to look into the reindeer situation, about which we spoke editorially two months ago. A great number of letters have gone from our readers, we understand, to the department and to various Representatives in Washington, and while we cannot by any means claim credit for this or any other special action of the department (these investigators were appointed before the April WOMEN AND MISSIONS appeared), we do know that the Secretary of the Interior has been warmly assured of earnest support and deep interest on the part of a great number of Presbyterian Church people in his efforts to clear up a very confused and distressing situation. We are also printing a letter received from Dr. James H. Condit, Presbyterian missionary to Alaska for many years and only recently retired, heartily endorsing our editorial on this matter.

Naturally, we have received protests regarding this same April reindeer editorial from representatives of the reindeer corporation, against which our contemporary, *Indian Truth*, was so strongly outspoken and which WOMEN AND MISSIONS quoted at considerable length in April.

We have invited one of these correspondents to send us a statement within a certain word limit showing where we were wrong, and which we could print. This invitation has not been accepted up to the time of the present writing, as our June magazine goes to press. And none of the letters above referred to are in a form that we care to print—indeed, apparently they were not sent to us for that purpose.

Certain statements we can correct, however, and we are glad to do so in the interest of accuracy, though the correc-

tions do not change the fundamental facts of the importance of securing attention to and justice for the Alaskan Eskimo in his reindeer holdings.

One statement which is very specifically challenged is that the Indian Rights Association gave a thousand dollars to purchase the first herd of reindeer. We thought our information (from a very reliable source) was quite accurate, but on further investigation we find that while the Indian Rights Association influenced its friends and supporters to respond to Dr. Sheldon Jackson's plea for funds, and supported his efforts in every way possible, the Association did not actually contribute money, as it had no funds for such a purpose. The source of the money for the purchase of the first herds, however, is not particularly relevant, for the fact is not changed that Dr. Jackson raised the funds through his own efforts, that they came by popular subscription, secured through press publicity, from his and the Indian Rights Association's friends; and that the money was raised for the purpose of providing reindeer to serve as a source of food and clothing for the Eskimos.

It also appears that Dr. Jackson, surprised himself at the rapid increase of the reindeer in Alaska, later realized that they might be a source of profit to white men coming to the territory, and in a report to the 58th Congress in 1903 he stated: "While the original purpose in the introduction of domestic reindeer into Alaska was to assist in the civilization of the Natives and to help them to a better and more certain method of . . . livelihood, yet the reindeer will prove equally important to the whites who may seek homes or engage in business in sub-arctic Alaska."

But again we feel that the basic fact is not dimmed. Dr. Jackson's first and principal object was to secure the deer for the Native, and so the Government understood, and still understands. (Note the opening sentences of the Government's news release on page 96.) For

*Mrs. Conner.  
 Let's see if we made  
 Conner's brother Ralph.*

this reason the Government made the missions in Alaska guardians for the Eskimo of their herds, and set up stringent rules about selling the deer, especially the females.

Mr. Carl Lomen strongly objects to our quotation from *Indian Truth* regarding the stock selling campaign of his corporation, and states that the supervisor of securities in the State of Washington has heartily approved the set-up of the corporation.

He says also that we were mistaken in our story that not both of the Eskimo representatives (with one-half vote each) were in attendance at the meeting of the Reindeer Council in Nome last summer. He adds: "All members were present, though an Eskimo reindeer man from Wales was substituted for the one from Buckland by the Federal reindeer supervisor."

Mr. Lomen further objects to WOMEN AND MISSIONS venturing on this subject at all; but every church magazine has a right to speak out when charges of injustice or oppression are preferred by any people for whom the church feels responsibility. And when for years Eskimos in Alaska, Presbyterian and other missionaries there, and sincere friends of the Natives have been begging the Government to guard and secure the rights of these Government charges in their reindeer holdings; when the matter has become so serious in the eyes of the Government that the Kendrick Committee had to be set up to investigate the complaints; when the report of that committee fills two volumes of mimeographed matter, and contains telegrams and letters from such well-known missionaries as Dr. Greist of Point Barrow, who signed a message "from a mass meeting of 500 Eskimos" to protest against infringement of Eskimo rights by the Lomen corporation; when secretaries from the Board of National Missions who have repeatedly visited Alaska and personally heard Eskimo complaints have brought back word of unhappy conditions; and when the Home Missions Council, representing all of the major evangelical denominations, sends special request to the Government to "protect these defenceless Natives in the owner-

ship of the deer"—then we feel that WOMEN AND MISSIONS has done rightly in bringing this matter before the women of our church.

If any of our readers are interested in delving deeper into the subject, we suggest that they secure copies of the two volumes of the "Hearings of the Reindeer Committee" (the Kendrick Committee) in Washington, D. C., February-March, 1931. How many of these are available for free distribution we do not know, but a letter of inquiry to the Department of the Interior will doubtless receive prompt attention.

Meanwhile, WOMEN AND MISSIONS rests in the confidence that the Government, through its Department of the Interior under Secretary Wilbur, is honestly endeavoring to get at all the facts, make the necessary plans and adjustments, and carry them out as rapidly as possible. It takes time and patience to right any unhappy condition which has grown up, and one must suffer at length, sometimes, before justice can be done to all. The three things that friends of the Eskimo are contending for are: First, a general roundup of all reindeer herds. Second, the determination of ownership as between whites and Natives. Third, specific allocation of ranges for the herds. All of these may be difficult of accomplishment, but they are not impossible.

★ ★ ★

### Where Hindrance Helped

Last year the University of Cuba was closed by the Government after the students went on strike "for political reasons," and it has not been re-opened since. The examinations and tests sent out by the Government for the university and all high school students in the island automatically stopped at the same time. Yet this apparent deterrent to education has actually resulted in a remarkable advance. The mission schools took prompt advantage of the restrictions to enlarge their opportunities. The government examinations have always been a matter of rote—the student had to memorize his work and answer in the exact phraseology of the book, and any answer in his own words, however intelligent he



might be on the subject, counted against him rather than for him. Now, with no examinations to face, the curricula of the mission schools has been released for up to date subjects, and a modern scholastic technique not before possible. Students are taking eager advantage. Night classes have been opened in many places for the teaching of geography, English, arithmetic, composition and simple mechanics, and the regular classes of our mission schools are able to include political economy, mechanics, home-making, commercial subjects, and religious education. "It's an ill wind that blows nobody good."

★ ★ ★

### After Long Service

ON THE page of this magazine devoted to missionary changes will be noted the honorable retirement of Dr. and Mrs. Courtenay H. Fenn, of China. The action of the Board of Foreign Missions in this instance is a bit anomalous, as while it has retired Dr. Fenn, it is continuing him in secretarial service at Board headquarters. But it would be still more anomalous, Dr. and Mrs. Fenn feel, to keep their names on the list of China missionaries after five years in the United States, with no prospect of return to China. The chief reason for their retention at home is Dr. Fenn's duty to his ninety-year old mother, who must depend on her son for care. So the Board has retired them after thirty-nine years of service, and at the same time retains Dr. Fenn to carry a service in its headquarters secretarial offices which, by reason of his long missionary term, he is peculiarly qualified to fill.

★ ★ ★

### Days of Real Dependence

IT WAS truly sacrificial giving, in this year of emergency and reduction of personal income, that saved the Boards of the church from any more serious deficits than they recorded at the end of March. The Board of Foreign Missions, as is stated in the article by Miss Kittredge elsewhere in these pages, closed with a deficit of only \$65,000. This would have been vastly greater except for unanticipated savings in favorable exchange, for

the gifts to the "No Retreat Fund," and the inclusion of a number of legacies in the regular funds. The Board of Christian Education closed its books with a deficit of \$229,000, but adjustments of funds have been made which reduced the added deficits of this year just closed and the preceding year to a total of \$217,474. The Board of National Missions reported an operating deficit of \$561,000, but reserve funds set aside in anticipation of a shortage reduced this to \$498,000.

All the Boards reduced their expenses during the year just closed by hundreds of thousands of dollars. Every expenditure was "cut to the bone." The Board of National Missions, for example, although its income from living sources was \$410,000 less than the preceding year, spent \$134,000 less.

The women failed to meet their apportionment in both Boards. As the women's gifts to foreign missions are not used for the entire support of definite pieces of work, the women's organization of the Board of Foreign Missions never reports a *deficit*—only a decrease in giving. This year, despite remarkable giving in one group after another, they have come short of the \$1,375,000 asked of them by \$159,779, a decrease from what they gave last year of \$91,576. The women's and young people's gifts to the Board of National Missions, however, are used for support of the Division of Schools and Hospitals and for a certain part of the work of the Division of Missions to Colored People. This year the women and young people gave to national missions \$76,000 less than last year, or a "deficit" of that amount.

Against these facts, all Boards are planning further reductions and retrenchment for the new year of 1932-33. The Board of Christian Education has set a budget of \$203,000, or 20 per cent less than last year. The Board of Foreign Missions has reduced its headquarters' administration. (And it should always be noted that in "headquarters administration" is included not only secretarial and office salaries, but travel of furloughed missionaries to speak to various audiences about the country.) The Board has further ordered the work (not the

## Hope for the Eskimo

ON the editorial pages of this magazine will be found a further statement regarding the reindeer in Alaska and the difficulties which have arisen over ownership and grazing rights. Our comment on this matter in the April WOMEN AND MISSIONS resulted in many letters going to Washington, and Secretary Roy Lyman Wilbur of the Department of the Interior has courteously sent us the following "memorandum for the press" which has gone out from his office, as well as a letter which indicates his interest in and attention to the matter. We also are printing a letter from Dr. James H. Condit, missionary of the Presbyterian Board of National Missions in Alaska for long years, and retired only last year.

### MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESS (DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR)

A NEW industry may be said to have taken definite form on a basis of organized operation this week (April 4) when Secretary Wilbur ordered two veteran field representatives of the Department of the Interior to Alaska to assist the local officials in the actual application of a carefully worked out plan for reindeer management.

These men are Charles R. Trowbridge and Howard M. Gillman, both of whom long have been associated with problems of the public domain and the indigenous American. They will be followed soon by an expert in range management who will remain permanently in Alaska.

The problem is an unusual one. It is that of assisting the Governor of Alaska, who has administrative jurisdiction over the natives' deer, in bringing order out of the chaos of a venture which originated forty years ago in a missionary's attempt to help an isolated people and has developed into a livestock industry that covers an area as big as Texas. It is an industry built on the reindeer, an animal which never before formed the basis for such an enterprise. It is located in the north and west of Alaska, within and near the Arctic Circle, where for months the sun forgets to rise in the winter and to set in the summer. It is based upon Arctic moss, buried under the snow, in lieu of corn or hay, and the instinct of an animal of the north for uncovering it and flourishing upon it.

Eskimos, who are native born citizens of the United States, own a large portion of the reindeer. Aside from food, the reindeer offer the prospect of a "cash crop" to the Eskimo. The plans are to assist the natives by proper

guidance in the development of the industry to avoid the pitfalls of the early cattle industry, and to see that every orphan Eskimo receives his correct certificate of ownership in the reindeer associations which have been formed.

This formal reorganization of the reindeer business in Alaska has followed a year's study by a special committee set up by Secretary Wilbur and headed by Senator John B. Kendrick, of Wyoming, who brought to the problem an experience of fifty years as a cattleman in the West. Cattle experience has not been found to be sufficient in solving reindeer problems, however, for the reindeer obey instincts peculiar to their kind. One of the reindeer's habits, for example, is to return, like the salmon of the northern streams, unerringly to the place of its birth to bear its young. This interferes with the management of herds.

The first step recommended by the reindeer committee already has been taken. It constituted the establishment in Alaska of a Reindeer Council. The members of this Council are the Governor of Alaska, the Chief of the Alaskan Division of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Superintendent of Reindeer in Alaska, a representative chosen by the Eskimo, and a representative of the Lomen interests, large reindeer owners. This group was authorized to draft range rules, which has been done.

Definite plans for the ensuing summer have been drawn and are to be put into effect. It is to aid in working out these plans that Messrs. Trowbridge and Gillman are going to Alaska. Among the problems with which they will wrestle are those controversies of reindeer ownership which are not greatly different from the issues that used to arise in the American West when various claimants contested with each other for the unbranded animals on the range. Certain of the ranges as, for instance, that around Teller and Buckland in the Seward Peninsula, are to be evacuated by white owners and left entirely to the natives. Unit managers are to be appointed for given districts and assisted in their duties. Complete round-ups are to be made of certain areas where native deer are largely unbranded, and the ownership of those deer determined. Prescribed areas are to be listed under the direction of the Land Office for the grazing of certain herds in accordance with field investigations that have already been made. Courses of training are to be set up for native herders and for herd managers. Native herds are to be protected



as completely as is possible. The government representatives are to meet with the Reindeer Council for the consideration of revision and perfection of range rules and other problems. Study of general administration, the distribution of supplies and deer, and marketing problems, will be made. The skill of these combined agencies will be brought to bear on directing the organization of this new-born industry in such a way that it may function competently.

#### LETTER FROM SECRETARY WILBUR

DEAR Miss Towne:  
I notice your editorial on "Save the Eskimo's Reindeer!" in your issue of April, 1932, particularly that portion urging your subscribers to write to me asking for justice for the Natives of Alaska in the protection of their reindeer herds. I wish you to know that this department is exerting every effort within its power to look after the interests of the Natives. Not long ago, I met with representatives from various missions operating in Alaska and explained our problem to them. It was my impression that they left with a true understanding of the situation. The limited funds for administration, the widespread distribution of the herds, the lack of travel facilities, and isolation all make for obstacles which are difficult to overcome.

The economic advantages of the reindeer to the Natives has again been demonstrated in the last few weeks when unprecedented snows near Kotzebue would have caused serious hardship to hundreds of Natives except for the availability of reindeer meat. Yet the industry is outgrowing the original conception. By reason of increase in the herds, it has now become a business and marketing problem which brings it into competition with the meat industry in the States.

We have made efforts to secure an increase in the supervisory force in the field and believe we will succeed in securing two additional reindeer superintendents for the next fiscal year. In addition, I am arranging for three agents of this department to proceed immediately to Alaska to aid the Governor in a fair and orderly reorganization and adjustment of the ownership of the deer and expedite the making of range leases as recommended by the Reindeer Committee after hearings in my office during February and March of last year.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Roy Lyman Wilbur

#### DR. CONDIT SAYS (IN PART)

"I wish to express my appreciation of the article in *WOMEN AND MISSIONS* in be-

half of the Eskimo reindeer owners of Alaska. The matter is splendidly summed up in the editorial.

"It is my impression that Secretary Wilbur is earnestly striving to bring about a proper adjustment of the situation. There are two features to be recognized. In the first place, the industry has far outgrown its original purpose. From a source of food and clothing, the original purpose, the herds have so grown as to threaten their own welfare in certain areas by lack of scientific management. The marketing of the products, including the proper preparation of the meat, is of prime importance to the Natives as well as to the white men who are now in the business and to the public which may well look to this as a source of cheap meat. Provision should be made whereby the Eskimo owners and other small holders of reindeer may market their surplus and thus be provided with a source of earning a living in accord with the higher standards of life now characteristic of the Natives of Alaska everywhere.

"In my judgment it is now too late to prevent ownership by other than Natives of reindeer, and for the reason just stated it is not desirable. But, in the second place, if there has been a failure to attain the ends of the government in introducing deer, that failure, as our Delegate to Congress from Alaska, James Wickersham, has shown in his testimony before the Reindeer Committee, is due to the failure of the Government to properly discharge its responsibility as indicated in the original plan....

"There are several points to be maintained: The end for which reindeer were introduced has not been attained. It has reached a stage in which more than ever the supervision of the Government is needed....

"While good recommendations have been made and while the plans for the control of the industry seem to be well taken, the history of the past would indicate that friends of the Native must be continually on the alert to see that the recommendations are carried out....

"As I see it, specific insistence should be brought to bear on the proposition to segregate Lomen herds from Native holdings; to provide a market for Native reindeer products; to make the scientific development of the industry applicable to Native holdings as a Government project involved in the original scheme and not subservient to the commercial side now to the forefront....

"The issue is far from settled. Judging from the history of the past, I fear that the Eskimo are in for hard trials. And the only doctrine I know of for their friends is to 'Fight on, my soul, till death.'"

**LOMEN REINDEER CORPORATION**  
Nome, Alaska

R A N G E   R U L E S

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The reindeer industry has now reached a point in its development where the adoption of range rules and regulations is desirable and necessary. It is to be hoped that one of the government agencies, preferably the Bureau of Education, sends out questionnaires to Eskimo associations and companies, government superintendents and teachers, making for suggestions, and adopt some rules that are recognized by all reindeer owners as equitable and sound.

Pending action by the Government, the Lomen Reindeer Corporation hereby adopts the following regulations which will be in force at all company herds on and after September 1, 1929, the fifteenth anniversary of the purchase of our first reindeer.

MARKING NOTIFICATIONS:

We will notify, in writing, the owners or agents of our neighboring herds, as to the time, and place, of the marking of our herds, at least two weeks in advance of such marking so that representatives of such neighboring herds may be present at the marking of our herds, and they are invited to be present at such marking.

EAR MARKS

Ear marks will not exceed one-half inch in depth and a slice will not exceed one-half inch in length in marking fawns and will not exceed one inch in length or depth in marking adults.

MARKING PAIDS TO STRAY OWNERS

"Stray" owners in company herds will receive ten percent less than the percentage of fawn increase for the year, with a maximum percentage of 50 on two or more females, including yearling females, and increase will be given only on even numbers of such stray females. The odd number will not receive increase when based on a 50% fawn increase.

Any owner of stray deer, when such number exceeds one hundred females not satisfied with the fawn increase on females, may, by written request to our Nome Office, and by payment of his pro rata of herd expenses for the year, share in pro rata division of fawns.

REPORT ON MARKING RECORD:

As soon as possible after every marking or handling of any company herd, a report will be made to the reindeer supervisor of the Bureau of Education and to the local representative of Bureau of Biological Survey, Nome, Alaska, giving the number deer handled together with a list of owners of stray deer, the number of such "strays" the



Sheet..... 2

the number of fawns marked to such owners of stray deer, ownership and number of re-marks, if any, and other information as we think will be of interest to such Government Bureaus.

#### HOW MARKED BY CO-OWNERS

Expenses may be paid by co-owners, in cash, in labor, when on company payroll - or in reindeer on the hoof when ranging with a company herd. Hereafter, whenever a co-owner desires to pay herd expenses in reindeer, the Lomen Reindeer Corporation will accept same on the following basis and at the following value:

When said deer range with our herd we will credit any owner for reindeer re-marked to us or butchered, with \$3.00 per head.

#### BUTCHERING:

Whenever reindeer are butchered, whether one or more, except at an abattoir, at any company herd, whether by an owner or other or by a herder or other employee, the ears of such animal or animals butchered must in all cases be brought in and deposited with the herd superintendent or chief herder, and such ears kept at company headquarters for at least three months and there be subject to inspection by any interested party.

#### PURCHASE OF REINDEER:

Hereafter the Lomen Reindeer Corporation will purchase reindeer for butchering as follows: We will pay three dollars (\$3.00 per head for reindeer on the hoof which average in weight not less than 125 pounds dressed, delivered at one of our abattoir corrals during such periods as we are organized for butcher.

#### NOTIFICATION OF DRIVES:

Whenever it becomes necessary to move a number of deer - excepting sled-deer, across another range, we will give sufficient notice, in writing, to said other herd, its owners, or agents, of our intention.

Copies of these rules and regulations will be mailed to the Reindeer Supervisor of the Bureau of Education, to the Biological Survey, and to the following herds and companies; Unalakleet herd, Haktoolik herd, Council herd, Igloo herd No. 2, Wales, Shishmaref, Peering Eskimo Company, Buckland Eskimo Company, and Kotzebue Eskimo Company.

The Lomen Reindeer Corporation will be pleased to receive comments from other owners as to other rules which should be formulated. The company is satisfied to have the above rules apply to their reindeer in other herds.

These rules and regulations are subject to change without notice.

Very truly yours,

LOMEN REINDEER CORPORATION

EXHIBIT "C"

IN THE PROTESTS OF ESKIMOS ABOUT RANGE

Copy  
Extract from letter  
Sokweena to Shields

Keevelik, Alaska  
Sept. 16, 1917

Dear Friend,  
Walter C. Shields

I am going to send you a letter, and I didn't see you  
in Kotzebue and I am sorry for that. \* \* \* \* \*

And some of our herd was gathered to Pete Hutta Herd.  
If these Lapps didn't stay we will never do it. About four  
hundred we separated from Lapp herd and went back to Elefen  
Point.

Lapp and our herd to hear each of them. We all think  
about that country all of Buckland people that I know. We  
think about that man drowned so bad that man was working in  
Laplender and he go away from Lapps and I tell you about  
them Lapps staying in our places. You are the higher and I  
tell you about them Lapps and they gone to stay up in timber  
in our places for few years ago. You know that place.

We all think about that Lapps staying in our places  
and Buckland herd will be separated this fall make two herd  
if I can well some time in November. \* \* \* \* \*

Your friend

Thomas Sokweena



IN RE BUCKLAND RANGELAND LETTERS

Extract

Copy of letter

Supt. Shields to Thomas Sokweena

Nome, Alaska  
Sept. 27, 1917

Mr. Thomas Sokweena  
Noorvik, Alaska

My dear Thomas:

I was very glad to get your good long letter of  
September 16 \* \* \* \* \* (unimportant part omitted.)

Perhaps you can go and see the Lapps yourself and  
get an understanding with them about the ground. I be-  
lieve that Hetta would do what is right about the ground  
if you would go and see him yourself. Perhaps you can  
go with me to see him this winter."

\* \* \* \* \*

Very truly yours,

(Walter Shields)

EXHIBIT "C"

Letter  
Copy Supt. N. W. Dist.,  
Chief of Alaska Division

Seattle, Wash  
November 3, 1919

Mr. W. T. Lopp  
Seattle, Wash.

Dear Mr. Lopp:

Referring to the attached from Johnnie Hadley, Chief herder of Buckland Herd No. 2, in which he makes complaint of encroachment on his own and Sokweens's assigned grazing ground by the Lopp Buckland Herd, I beg to advise that during January last I visited the Buckland Lopp herd owned by Hatta Brothers which was at that time located within ten miles of Buckland Village.

I took up Hadley's complaint with Hatta Brothers in person and these Lapps acknowledged they were encroaching but claimed they were forced to their location by high water and unfavorable general conditions of the fall before which had prevented them making their high ground objective. Furthermore, Hatta Brothers, promised at that meeting to vacate as soon after fawning's conditions would permit which would be probably during the present fall.

Respectfully yours,

J. A. Maguire

Superintendent N. W. Dist.



EXHIBIT "C"

Copy  
Petition of Buckland Natives  
to separate from Lomen & Co herd.

Station, Buckland, Alaska  
August 9, 1923

Mr. Sylvester Chance,  
District Supt.

Dear Sir:

Concerning our reindeer work here at Buckland. We need you to help us this time. We want separate our deer from the Lomen & Company herd we can not stay with them on account of we are loosing so many and we like to hold our feeding grounds also.

We the first reindeer people here at Buckland had the reindeer and not the Lomen & Company, if you can help us we will help you too.

If we stay with this company, will never be able to ship meat to outside, right now they try hard to keep us down on the meat business. Right now our deer are decreasing right along and loosing very fast. Our Buckland boys they wanted to be separate from the Co.

This letter is from us all.

Truly yours as we are

Mr. and Mrs. John Geary

Tamie Carter

Mr. and Mrs. J. Richard (X)

Mr. and Mrs. E. Swan (X)

Mr. and Mrs. Egak (X)

Miss Elsie Egak

Ned Kopperru-wek

Nicholas Anasaguk

Johnnie Hadley

Connell Armstrong

Mr and Mrs. Charles Armstrong (X)

George Washington

Mr and Mrs. John Washington (X)

Mr. and Mrs. David Hadley (X)

Mr. and Mrs. Willie Armstrong

Mr. and Mrs. Klalock

Miss Rose Washington

Miss Bessie Armstrong

Mr. and Mrs. Paddy Geary

note on margin.

"Refer to Mr. Lopp

They want to pull out in Feb. when the  
Lomen Co. corral

34

EXHIBIT "C"

IN RE GRAZING LANDS BUCKLAND HERD

Copy letter  
Sokweena to Teacher  
or Supt.

Keewalik, Alaska  
August 24, 1923

Noorvik School Teacher, or Dist. Supt.

Gentlemen:

Dear Sir:

We sent the reindeer report to you. We did not report our mark no plants. We sent them on lately because we have been busy on two big herds in one month we work them.

I hope you will send us letter about reindeer. We have been together with Lomen herd at Buckland. I asking you if can separated this year.

But we will have no place to stay on springtime on fawning. Before we use to stay in Alter Creek in 1919. Between Alter Creek and Keewalik. I think we will stay there if you want us to stay again. In winter we can stay at Buckland between two rivers.

Please answer soon.

Sincerely yours,

THOMAS SOKWEENA.

BY Hugh Thomas.

NOTE: (The herd seems to have been kept at Alder Creek, west of the Keewalik, during fawning season of 1919. This was the year that the Hettas had their herd "within ten miles of Buckland Village", see Maquire's Report Nov. 12, 1919 - attached)

C. L. A.



EXHIBIT "C"

IN THE BUCKLAND REINDEER RANGE

Copy  
SECOND PETITION  
Buckland Eskimos  
to cut out deer.

Station, Buckland  
November 15, 1923.

REINDEER BU INDS

Holders and owners had a meeting and said they all want to separate their reindeer out from the Lomena herd, in first place Buckland natives had the ground before this Lomen Co.

So they all willing to hold this ground and will ask their Government to help in this reindeer, now we will wait for you to help us in this matter until after Christmas.

The names

Jimmie Hadley	John Konaluk	Okamena (2)
Johnnie Hadley	Tinack	Mootikuk (2)
Ralph Ponagalook	Kialock	Will Armstrong
Hugh Thomas	Paddy Geary	Elsie Egak
Johnnie Geary	Andrew Sinno	Charlie Clark
Leo Angrook Taber	Charlie Armstrong	
Geo. Washington	Thomas Sokweena	
Nicholas Anasagak	Ive Ahugak Taber	

NOTE: (All those who are named in the Lomen letter as being on agreement for the native herd seem to be in this petition except Tommie Carter)

C. L. A.

34

EXHIBIT "C"

IN THE BUCKLAND REINDEER RANGE

Copy of letter

Capt. H. W. Dist., B of Bd.

to Alfred Lomen

Noorvik, Alaska

Nov. 30, 1923.

Mr. Alfred Lomen

Nome, Alaska

Dear Mr. Lomen:

We are in receipt of numerous complaints from the Eskimo reindeer owners in the Buckland herd. Just recently they sent a petition asking to separate from the Lomen Co. herd. The petition was signed by practically every owner. I visited Buckland last week and talked with the boys. They have various complaints to make and claims.

I am convinced that they are fully justified in insisting on separating and granted the request of the petition subject to Mr. Lopp's instruction from Anchorage. Isaac Hetta assured us that you would come over and assist. There are certain conflicting claims that should be adjusted and I believe they would be willing to submit their claims to a board of arbitration, and will abide by their decision, if you will do the same.

One claim that certainly needs adjustment is that of Eddie Green four years ago he owned 64 deer and now he has only 61 left according to our report last July.

The time set by the boys for separating is Feb. 8 to 15 depending on the weather, partly on your choice and mine. I can go any time. Preferably after Feb. 8. The Eskimo deer will all be marked with one mark which will simplify matters greatly in case the herds mix again.

Please write me fully regarding the plan or wireless me at Noorvik. I am now at Kotzebue on my way to Point Hope and stations enroute and will not be back to Noorvik before December 19, with favorable weather.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) SYLVESTER CHANCE

NOTE: (Eddie Green died some 8 to 10 years ago and the estate has not yet been settled)

C. L. A.



EXHIBIT "C"

IN RE BUCKLAND RANGE

Letter, Lomen to Supt. Chance

LOMEN REINDEER AND TRAINING CORPORATION

120 Broadway, New York

Home Office, Nome, Alaska

Nome, Alaska December 29, 1923.

Mr. Sylvester Chance,  
Supt. N. W. Dist.,  
Bureau of Education

Dear Sir:

We are in receipt of your favor of November the thirtieth, which we acknowledged receipt of in our message to you of yesterday, a copy of which we herewith enclose for confirmation.

For the reason stated in our message to you, your proposition cannot be considered by our company, until the termination of the agreement mentioned, signed by over 80 percent of the deer represented in the Buckland herd. Said agreement regulates the handling of said herd until the close of marking 1924.

As you were at the Buckland just recently, investigating conditions there, it is with some little surprise that we read your letter. You no doubt have been informed of, or have read the agreement existing between the respective owners of said herd. It has always been the policy of this company to endeavor to live up to any agreement, which it may enter into, to the best of its ability and it intends to do so in this instance.

We are greatly interested in knowing the nature of the numerous claims and complaints mentioned. You saw fit to enlighten us in regard to only one of them, the Eddie Green deer. As Supt. of the N. W. Dist., you no doubt know that said deer are in charge of Ralph Ponigalok and that Paul Green has paid no herding expenses to said Ponigalok for four years and that our company at no time has claimed anything or received anything for the herding of said deer. We fully agree with you that this must be adjusted.

Ponigalok's complaint and claim is the only one that I recall mentioned last summer. It would appear to us that you could settle this by practicing fair treatment to Ralph without going to the trouble of organizing a board of arbitration. I am sure that Ralph would be reasonable.

Your letter following your interview with Mr. Lopp at Kivalina, last summer, and the insinuations passed in regard to the said Eddie Green deer and your Mr. Cram stating to you last summer at Kotzebue, that a certain native would now have four thousand deer if it were not for our company, would border on to insult, if it had emanated from a source that had knowledge of the facts or had been interested in securing them.



We have handled herds in the N. . District since the summer of 1914 and have never had the pleasure of a representative of the Bureau or of the co-operation of the Bureau at any of our roundups. If you should trouble yourself to the extent of referring to your files you would discover that for the past three years your Bureau has been invited and requested to assist.

As you no doubt know, Mr. Palmer, of the Biological Survey kept all the records at the marking of 1921, as the Government representative of the native, and their request and our approval. Mr. Olson, of the Candle School, kept the records in 1922. Our company did not have a representative at this marking (for record purposes) Mr. Palmer assisted again in 1923 as in 1921. Our records, the same as the natives, are copies of their findings.

We are pleased to hear that you granted the natives request to separate. Next summer at the markings we will assist you in every way possible. That will be the proper time to adjust all the numerous claims and complaints and a far better time to change the many native marks into one.

As you no doubt know, we handled only a little over two thirds of the Buckland herd last summer. In fairness you might have taken that into consideration when you quoted the Biological Survey reports.

We received a letter from Isaac Hotta informing us of the meeting held at the Buckland. He no doubt misunderstood you as he thought that it was your desire that we should separate and pull out. Your letter plainly states that the natives are the ones that insist on separating. No doubt desiring to return to their old unit west of the Keewalik.

We are satisfied that our deduction is correct as you could not very well invite us to come north to assist the natives in separating and then notify us after our arrival that you, without legal authority have issued our legal walking papers. If the letter had been your intention you would have accomplished but little, as your authority in such matter does not interest us in view of the fact that there is a bill before Congress at the present time dealing with the distribution of allotments. It is not for us, the little fry, to meddle now.

In your first letter you state that you would go ahead with the separation after receiving word from Mr. Lopp to do so. Now you state that if the natives so desire that you will go ahead. It would appear that you already know the nature of Mr. Lopp's decision. No doubt all out and dried without considering us. We control over fifty percent of the Buckland herd and believe in majority rule, granting protection, however, to the minority. Are we to understand that we have no rights that the native or the Bureau must respect. Does separation involve the abandonment of our grazing grounds and the improvements thereon at the will of either? As understood by our Mr. Hotta. If the idea is to pull out from our herd, as we understand it, that may be considered and acted on when reasonably convenient



Letter L. R. & T Co.  
to Supt. N. W. Dist.

to do so, respecting the convenience of both parties and the herd.

If you proceed with the separation as you state you will and should cause damage to our herd we will hold you responsible for such action.

Many false charges have been made from time to time against our company to prejudice you and others. Why not take such matters up and get at the truth, without prejudging any case.

Yours very truly,

LOM-H REINDEER & TRADING CORP.

BY Alfred J. Lomen

Sec.

PRINT "C"

Copy letter  
Supt. N. W. Dist. to Lomen Corp.

898  
Lofa  
First Sec.

Lomen Reindeer & Trading Corporation  
Nome, Alaska

Dear Sirs:

Your telegram just received. This is the first information I had, that you had signed an agreement with the natives of Buckland binding them to keep their deer with yours. Samuel Anruk, who was the assistant teacher at Melawik last year spent the summer at Buckland and is now assistant teacher here. When your telegram came I called him in to get more information regarding the nature of the agreement and the conditions thereof.

He says that several signed the agreement without understanding it, that some of the boys signed for owners who were not present. That Hugh Sokweena signed for his father. I think probably Hugh was not authorized to do so. He made several other statements that cause me to believe that the agreement is not at all binding. The supervision of the reindeer in so far as it pertains to the Eskimos is under the supervision of the Bureau of Education and we should have been consulted before making radical changes.

I received a letter signed by several Eskimos of Buckland, Aug. 9th, last in which they asked that they be allowed to separate their deer from the Lomen Company deer. When Mr. Lopp was in Kotzebue we talked the matter over and he instructed me to ask the natives and the Lomen Company to agree to submit their conflicting claims to a board of arbitration, then to separate the Eskimo deer from yours.

Later, Nov. 18, a petition was signed asking that they be allowed to separate. I visited Buckland Nov. 22, and talking the matter over with the natives also your representative, Isaac Hattag, who assured me that it would be alright to separate and also assured me that you would be willing to come and assist. No one mentioned the agreement of which you wire.

I expect to leave for Buckland Jan. 4, and will learn more of the details of the agreement. At present I do not believe it can be made binding and if the natives insist on separating as they have been doing, I shall plan to return about Feb. 10 and be present at the dividing as per my letter of Nov. 30. If they are willing to abide by their agreement I shall not attempt to persuade them to do otherwise.

be

I trust that a settlement will be made that will satisfactory to all concerned.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) . Chance

Supt.

Copy to Mr. Lopp  
Anchorage.



EXHIBIT "C"

Letter L. R. & T. Corp.  
to Supt. N. W. Dist. B of E.

Nome, Alaska Jan. 29, 1924

Mr. Sylvester Chance,  
Supt. N. W. Dist.,  
Bureau of Education

Dear Sir:

Your letter of December the twenty ninth, 1923, acknowledging the receipt of our telegram of the day previous is at hand.

You presume when you state that we said that we had signed an agreement with the natives of the Buckland herd binding them to keep their deer with ours. The agreement mentioned outlines the manner in which said herd shall be handled for the current year and practically every suggestion came from the natives themselves. I covered such points as herd expenses can how they shall be met, who shall have charge of said herd, etc.,

Said agreement is good for one year and when written did not anticipate either "Radical Changes" (But left matters largely in Status Quo) or claim of supervision from a source that we have not had the pleasure of meeting in a business way in our ten years experience in your district. We would call that "Some Supervision."

You say that you do not think that the agreement is binding. Are you in a position to pass upon the legal points involved? You no doubt know that there is no law that inhibits the Eskimo from contracting suing and being sued. You may be right in saying that the signature of an unauthorized agent may not bind the principal but that is for the principal to decide. The Bureau would hardly presume to claim that they are the guardians of the native in the matter of their civil rights. The contract was at least binding upon those who signed for themselves and as to whether they understood or not is a matter for judicial determination, and not that of the Bureau.

Your assistant teacher, Smauel Anarak, states that several signed the agreement without understanding it. He was present at the time and consented. Silence is consent.

It appears to us that either the "wish is father to the thought" when you write that several of the natives did not understand the agreement, or that you were ignorant of the class of native to whom you refer. The following is a list of those who signed the agreement: Lomen & Company, by Alfred J. Lomen, R. S. Dimmick, by Alfred J. Lomen (holds power of attorney) Hugh Thomas,, Thomas Sokweena, by Hugh Thomas, Ralph Ponegilok, John Geary, Paddy Geary, by John Geary, George Washington, Charlie Clark, John L. Herbert, and Tommie Carter. There is not one in the above list who cannot both read and write and they will all admit that they fully understood the agreement.

If Samuel Anaruk spent the winter at the Buckland as a representative of the Bureau we were ignorant of the fact as he was not interested in the reports of the Buckland herd and did not assist or offer to assist in the keeping of them. He informed us that he was there to secure the Buckland School for the coming year.

Lomen to  
Supt. N. W. Dist.

You say that the supervision of the reindeer in so far as it pertains to the Eskimo is under the supervision of the Bureau of Education and that you should have been consulted before making "Radical Change." It may be true that you have supervision over the Eskimo, but why pick on us? Why not have your teacher at the Buckland report all "Radical Changes" to you. Are we expected to consult with Suttle whenever any question comes up between the natives and our company. We have tried in the past to consult both with the Northwest District and with Mr. Lopp, and have met with no success in either instance. We have tried for the past three years to have the Supt. of the N. W. Dist. at our roundup at Buckland. The Bureau has always been conspicuous by its absence. Last summer while we were working our Kotzebue herd at the Nokatak, on which you were a passenger dropped anchor in a calm sea not over one hundred yards from our corral. You evidently were not sufficiently interested at that time to pay us a visit as you did not come ashore with the rest of the passengers, though most of the natives from the Buckland were there. That would have been a splendid time to talk matters over. Last summer while Mr. Lopp was here our office called up the Bureau three different times and requested an interview with him at his convenience at either the office of the Bureau or at our office. He did not have even the official courtesy to acknowledge our call or to tell us that he was too busy to grant us an interview. Maybe a new broom sweeps clean and we may be able to receive some cooperation from you. We hope so.

Now you write and tell us that you should have been notified. We are not under your supervision in any way and will always use our judgment as to when it is fitting and proper to notify the Bureau as to our actions. We will always be glad and willing to meet and discuss with you along constructive lines for the reindeer industry, but to date it has been our misfortune to have to work without your cooperation as all new methods of handling have come from either our company or the Biological Survey, the Bureau has nothing to offer.

Yours very truly,

LAMEN REINDEER & TRADING CORPORATION

BY ALFRED J. LOMEN SEC.



EXHIBIT "A"

TELLING BOND REPORT 1927

Per Cent	Hard Ex. 1926-7	Balance Due	Total Indebt.	Credit 1927 From	Bal. Due
Lumen R. Corp. .7801	3786.30	-	-		
Cheralook .0589	293.90	or 255.70	38.20	150.00 c	111.90
Elingmuk .0278	146.15 c	124.65	21.50	30.00 c	39.50
Cockalalik .0007	3.70 c	42.90 c	39.10	c	39.10
Pagsey .0074	35.90 c	44.05 c	5.15	15.00 c	29.15
Martna Krmak .0030	15.75 c.	11.95	3.80	5.00 c	1.30
Issac Krmak .0007	3.70	1.30	5.50		5.50
Jim Gnescak .0030	15.75	1.90	17.65	10.00	7.65
Boek .0030	15.75 c	16.50	.75	5.00 c	4.25
Jack Utamane .0022	11.65 c	3.13	3.50	3.00	3.50
Pagsak .0007	3.70 c	17.45 c	13.75	c	13.75
Anstertuk .0226	171.40 c	133.75 c	17.35	115.00 c	132.35
T. Bernhardt .0196	103.05 c	55.20	47.85	25.00	22.85
Crucker Jack .0022	11.65 c	6.35	5.30	10.00 c	4.70
Henry Elarnuk .0013	7.90 c	12.40 c	4.50	c	4.50
Geo. Blakshak .0135	97.25 c	66.70	30.85	55.00 c	24.45
Ma. Ryatt .0104	24.70	13.50	68.20	45.00	23.20
Frank Eliano .0004	2.10		2.10		2.10
Johnson Ketuk .0111	53.40	85.50	625.10	40.00	65.10
Paul Wittigok .0004	2.10 c	24.05	22.05		22.05
Melvin A. .0035	44.70 c.	71.00 c	26.30	30.00 c	56.30
Bessie Miller .0037	19.45	30.85	50.20	10.00	40.20
Neesak .0152	79.90 c	10.40	69.50	60.00	9.50
Higgebrusick .0004	2.10 c	3.00	5.90	c	5.90
Panpulmuk .0296	155.65 c	113.65	39.50	95.00 c	55.50
Pootogcock .0011	5.80	3.45	3.25	5.00	3.25
J. Wiana .0192	100.95 c	30.40	10.55	75.00 c	64.45
R. Wheeler .0011	5.80 c	3.20	2.60		2.00

Filed Bureau of Education

Ans.

Alaska Division, Nome, Alaska



## TELLER HERD REPORT OF 1927

	Fawns		Fawn Coll.	Total Fawn	Fawn Due	Over & Short	Female	Male
	M	F.	Herd. Exp.					
L. R. Corp.	772	708	187	1480	1442	38	1945	1082
Sharalook			30	91	91		151	30
Elingnuk			18	45	45		75	22
Cockalaluk				1	1		2	
Dogney			3	12	12		20	3
Martha Drak			1	5	5		8	
Joane Eralook				1	1		2	1
Jim Omassek			2	5	5		8	1
Rock			1	5	5		8	2
Jack Utamane			1	4	4		6	1
Tageak				1	1		2	1
Anakartuk	14	13	22	53	53		68	15
T. Bernhardt	15	12	5	32	32		53	13
Cracker Jack	1	1	2	4	4		6	2
Henry Elamuk					2	= 2	4	1
Geo. Elukshak	13	8	11	30	30		50	10
Wm. Ryatt	6	2	9	17	17		28	12
Frank Ibiara					1	= 1	1	
Johnson Katuk	6	4	6	18	18		30	6
Paul Mettigak					1	= 1	1	1
Melvin A.	4	4	6	14	14		23	4
Bessie Miller	1	3	2	6	6		10	
Neseak	6	7	12	25	25		41	9
Niggebrusiak					1	= 1	1	1
Putugock	1		1	2	2		3	
J. Wiana	9	7	15	31	31		52	11
H. Wheeler					2	= 2	3	1
Unknown							115	44
Penyuknuk	13	16	19	48	48		80	15
<hr/>								
861 786 334				1930			2616	1286
				(187 in orig.)				

Fawn increase on females in herd 51%

Owners in herd receive 60% Stray Owners 40%

39 Yearlings were marked to L. R. Corp. for which they pay \$7.50 per head. This sum to apply on herd expense.

Cost of maintenance 1926-7

\$7200.50

1942.50

5258.00

Castrated Adults  
Year

425

90

515

Certified correct copy of report  
filed in Bureau of Ed. Office  
at Nome, Alaska E & O. E.

C. L. Andrews



LOMEN REINDEER CORPORATION

NOME, ALASKA

September 18, 1929

Mr. Jonathan H. Wagner,  
Bureau of Education  
Bell St. Terminal  
Seattle, Washington

Dear Mr. Wagner:

I am enclosing for your information copy of letter written to me by Mr. Leonard D. Baldwin on the costs of preparing reindeer meat for the market, based on our 1928 output. We are advising reindeer owners that we will hereafter pay for reindeer on the hoof not to exceed three dollars per head, until such time as market prices and demand for reindeer meat in the States improve.

We feel certain that with increased production, some of the costs may be reduced, which makes it desirable to handle the surplus stock of others in addition to our own meat, when possible.

We are mailing copies of the enclosed letter to all herd and store managers of our corporation.

Very truly yours,

LOMEN REINDEER CORPORATION

BY CARL J. LOMEN

THE ALASKA RAILROAD  
BUREAU OF EDUCATION



EXHIBIT "B"

LOMEN REINDEER CORPORATION

Nome, Alaska

September 18, 1929

Mr. Carl J. Lomen  
Lomen Reindeer Corporation.  
Nome, Alaska

Dear Mr. Lomen:

I have just completed an analysis of the results of our sale of reindeer slaughtered and shipped to Seattle during the summer of 1928. I find that the net results are not at all satisfactory. There is a demand for only a comparatively small number of deer to be sold as prime meat. The balance must be rebaled at additional cost - thawed, baled, and refrozen - and sold in competition with the cheaper grades of meat for sausage purposes.

I have prepared an estimate of the cost of slaughtering, storing, transporting, and sale of our output for the summer of 1929. Our output will be 15,000 or 16,000 deer. Expense and probable income are approximately as follows:

4,000 sold as whole deer at Seattle @ 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢	\$15.00	
12,000 boned, giving 80¢ at Seattle @ 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢	9.60	
An average per deer of		\$11.00
Return, net, on hide		<u>.50</u>
Gross return on reindeer		\$11.50

Costs, based on actual experience:

Herding	\$1.00	
Butchering	1.00	
Cold Storage, Alaska	.60	
Cold Storage, Seattle	.60	
Freight and Lighterage	3.00	
Boning, average cost	.60	
Sales Cost	<u>1.20</u>	
Total expense per deer		8.00
Net return per deer		<u>\$3.50</u>

These figures are based on a yearly kill of 16,000 deer, average weight 120 pounds. Several items of expense are not included in the above, such as our office expense, general overhead, and care of herds. Value of deer is omitted.

You paid for some of these deer to outside interests 7 cents per pound, a price absolutely unwarranted, as it spells a loss of not less than \$5.00 per deer.



Page.....2

Sept. 18, 1929

The idea prevailing as to the value of deer in Alaska is of breeding stock and can not be applied to surplus males.

We are organized with transportation, corral and cold storage facilities to take from other herds 10,000 deer a year in addition to the kill of our own herds, but we can do so only if they be sold to us at a price which will enable us to handle the same without loss.

We can not now, nor, so far as I can see, for some time to come, afford to allow more than \$3.00 per head for butchering stock. At that price the native owners of reindeer on Seward Peninsula may enjoy an income of from \$30,000 to \$50,000 a year from their surplus deer, beyond the food and clothing they now have.

Please issue instructions that no deer shall be purchased under any circumstances by our company at a price to exceed \$3.00 per deer, and then only when delivered in the company's corrals during such times as we are organized to butcher.

We are seeking to establish a tangible value for reindeer, a return to the owners and employment for labor. The margin of profit, if any, is very small at this time, and it is only by the sympathetic cooperation and assistance of the reindeer owners and those upon whom they lean for advice that it may be made a commercial enterprise.

The sooner those interested in reindeer, as well as our own organization, modify their exaggerated ideas as to the value of reindeer and profits in the business, the better it will be for all parties concerned.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Leonard D. Baldwin